

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 16, 2012

Senate Joint Resolution

No. 26

Introduced by Senator Vargas

(~~Coauthor:~~ *Coauthors: Assembly Member Members Hueso and
V. Manuel Pérez*)

May 16, 2012

Senate Joint Resolution No. 26—Relative to Naval Air Facility El Centro.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SJR 26, as amended, Vargas. The Naval Air Facility El Centro.

This measure would urge the California delegates of Congress to protect the Naval Air Facility El Centro during any upcoming base realignment and closure processes.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, United States Secretary of Defense, Leon Panetta,
2 recently released the 2013 fiscal year defense budget proposal
3 which includes a request for new base closures; and
4 WHEREAS, The Naval Air Facility El Centro (NAF El Centro)
5 might be under consideration for closure in the 2013 or 2015
6 closure periods; and
7 WHEREAS, The NAF El Centro provides efficiencies and
8 benefits to the Navy which include, but are not limited to, a
9 strategic location near Marine Corps Air Stations and the naval
10 fleet, proximity to ranges for different types of flights, and carrier
11 training using the Fresnel Lens Optical Landing System and lighted
12 carrier deck landing areas; and

1 WHEREAS, The El Centro area provides clear weather and
2 unobstructed terrain, which in turn provides ample low-level flying
3 opportunities; and

4 WHEREAS, No other region in the United States more closely
5 resembles current combat areas of the world; and

6 WHEREAS, The El Centro area provides a high quality of life
7 for its residents and the NAF El Centro has enjoyed unparalleled
8 community support since the establishment of the base, including
9 support from the County of Imperial Board of Supervisors; and

10 WHEREAS, Another base closure in California could have a
11 devastating impact on the nation's security; and

12 WHEREAS, The impact of the closure of the NAF El Centro
13 goes beyond the employment of the base personnel, impacting
14 ~~small local~~ *small local* small businesses, schools, sales and property tax
15 bases of the local community, the environment, the hospitality
16 industry, the housing market, and the local, regional, and state
17 economies; now, therefore, be it

18 *Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of*
19 *California, jointly*, That the Legislature urges the representatives
20 from California to the Congress of the United States to protect the
21 NAF El Centro during any upcoming base realignment and closure
22 processes; and be it further

23 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
24 this resolution to the Secretary of Defense of the United States, to
25 the Majority Leader of the Senate, to the Speaker of the House of
26 Representatives, to the minority leader of each house, to each
27 Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the
28 United States, and to the author for appropriate distribution.